

# WEST INDIAN HURRICANES AND OTHER TROPICAL CYCLONES OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC OCEAN

By C. L. MITCHELL

The tracks of tropical cyclones of the North Atlantic Ocean for the years 1924-1932, inclusive, are shown in Charts 1-4. These tracks, together with the tables below, are published to supplement, and to bring down to date, similar figures and tables in Supplement No. 24, MONTHLY WEATHER REVIEW, 1924. The three classes of tropical cyclones are as follows:

1. Storms of known hurricane intensity (with winds of at least 60 miles per hour reported).
2. Storms whose intensity is in doubt because of an insufficient number of reports.
3. Storms known to be of less than hurricane intensity.

## Yearly Frequency

The number of tropical storms of the North Atlantic Ocean for each year of the period 1887-1932 is shown in the subjoined table:

1887	16	1911	2
1888	10	1912	8
1889	8	1913	4
1890	1	1914	2
1891	11	1915	5
1892	9	1916	13
1893	11	1917	2
1894	6	1918	4
1895	6	1919	4
1896	6	1920	4
1897	5	1921	6
1898	8	1922	5
1899	5	1923	5
1900	6	1924	8
1901	10	1925	3
1902	4	1926	10
1903	8	1927	7
1904	9	1928	6
1905	3	1929	2
1906	9	1930	2
1907	4	1931	8
1908	6	1932	11
1909	12		
1910	4	Total	298

Of these 298 tropical storms, 173, or 58 per cent, occurred during the first 23 years of the period covered, and 125, or only 42 per cent, during the second 23 years. For the whole period an average of  $6\frac{1}{2}$  storms occurred per year, but during the last 23 years this number was reached or exceeded only seven times. Grouped in periods of 5 years each (omitting 1932) the numbers are as follows:

1887-1891	46	1912-1916	32
1892-1896	37	1917-1921	20
1897-1901	34	1922-1926	31
1902-1906	33	1927-1931	27
1907-1911	29		

The average number of storms for each 5-year period did not vary materially, except that there was a large excess during the period 1887-1891 and as great a deficiency during the period 1917-1921.

## Monthly frequency of West Indian hurricanes and other tropical storms of the North Atlantic Ocean (1887-1932)

	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Season
Number of storms	2	19	19	54	99	81	22	2	298
Percentage	1	6	6	18	33	27	8	1	

  

	Storms of known hurricane intensity	Doubtful	Not of hurricane intensity	Total
May	0	1	1	2
June	7	6	6	19
July	11	4	4	19
August	44	6	4	54
September	60	17	22	99
October	30	29	22	81
November	5	7	10	22
December	0	2	0	2
Total	157	72	69	298
Percentage	53	24	23	

# PRELIMINARY STATEMENT OF TORNADOES IN THE UNITED STATES DURING 1932

By ROBERT J. MARTIN

[Weather Bureau, Washington, January 28, 1933]

In keeping with the custom of recent years, a preliminary statement of loss of life and property damage by windstorms during the year is included in the December issue of the REVIEW. A final and more detailed study probably will be made during next summer. Practically all of the information given in this summary is abstracted from the monthly REVIEW tables of "Severe Local Storms" which are compiled from the reports of many observers and of the various section directors of the Bureau.

March was the month of the greatest loss of life and property damage, although the figures given have been exceeded in other years and months. In May, 1927, there were 54 tornadoes with 233 deaths; in June, 1928, there were 71 tornadoes, and March of 1925 exceeded March of 1932 in deaths. The loss of life for 1932, 391, was considerably below that for 1927, when 540 fatalities

were reported, and far below 1925, when 794 deaths were attributed to windstorms.

## TORNADOES AND PROBABLE TORNADOES

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
Number	7	2	38	8	11	28	18	2	6	3	0	2	125
Deaths	25	0	340	11	3	1	10	0	0	1	0	0	391
Damage	212	10	4,648	137	66	246	1,500	4	42	75	65	7,005	

## TORNADIC WINDS AND POSSIBLE TORNADOES

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
Number	0	1	3	3	2	0	4	2	2	2	0	0	19
Deaths	0	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	7
Damage	0	(3)	15	14	6	0	4	2	2	42	0	0	85

<sup>1</sup> In thousands of dollars.

<sup>2</sup> Some of these may not be classed as tornadoes in the final study.

<sup>3</sup> Damage estimated at "many thousand dollars."